



## **U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND** ***BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

*U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <http://news.soc.mil>*

### **Statement from the Family of Sgt. 1st Class Richard J. Herrema**

Our son Rick gave his life while fighting terrorism in Iraq to protect our way of life here. His heroic actions on the battlefield, as well as those of the men with him April 25th, fill us with lasting pride. We cannot describe our grief, but Rick would want everyone to know he died doing what he loved, fighting with his brothers and for this country.

We want to share with you a little about our amazing son. Words cannot do justice in articulating the man he had become. Rick was a role model in many ways; he was an outstanding Soldier, bright and athletic, competent and caring, honorable and accomplished. Rick's commitment and call to duty have always been a great source of honor and pride for us. His dedication to our country, and to his brothers-in-arms, was admirable, and served as an example to us all of fulfilling a calling much bigger than our individual selves.

Rick was in the company of men willing to risk their lives on a daily basis bringing terrorists to justice. There is some solace Rick did not die alone or in vain as he was surrounded by extraordinary men. These warriors shared Rick's sense of devotion, honor, selfless service, and the highest values and ideals of our country. We trust that they will carry memories of Rick with them as they continue to combat those who attempt to degrade our freedoms.

There is little anyone can do to fill this painful void, but your kind words and condolences have helped to ease our pain. We thank you for your concern and appreciate you keeping us, and more importantly, Rick in your thoughts and prayers.

**Richard & Mary Herrema**  
**May 4, 2006**

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